REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 1, 2008. Claims 1 to 7 are in the application, with Claims 1 and 5 being independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0026689 (Bernds). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Bernds in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,239,081 (Tsutsui). Claims 5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Bernds in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,857,817 (Henshaw). Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Bernds in view of Henshaw and further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0129937 (Hirai). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 5 recite, inter alia, a phenol resin represented by a following general formula (1):

None of Bernds, Tsutsui, Henshaw, and Hirai, even in the proposed

combinations, assuming, arguendo, that such could be combined is seen to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed feature.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' undersigned representative during the telephone interview conducted on August 26, 2008. As discussed during the interview, Bernds is merely seen to disclose a layer of an insulating material poly(4-hydroxy-styrene) (PHS), which is not identical or substantially identical to the claimed phenol resin. The chemical formula of PHS (set forth below) differs significantly from general formula (1) set forth in the instant claims.



PHS

The Examiner tentatively agreed with Applicants' position.

Tsutsui, Henshaw, and Hirai have been reviewed and are not seen to remedy the foregoing deficiencies of Bernds.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,

California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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